

# How to Reach the Nations

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# Synopsis

Mark 1:1 HCSB

The **beginning** of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

Mark 1 NET

14 Now after John was imprisoned, Jesus went into Galilee and proclaimed **the gospel of God**.

15 He said, “The time is fulfilled and **the kingdom of God** is near. Repent and believe **the gospel!**”

Matthew 28:19a NET

Therefore go and make disciples **of all nations**.

# Why?



Jesus' *purpose* statement:

- **Luke 4:43**; cp. **Acts 1.3**;

The Apostolic *commission*:

- **Luke 10.9**, “heal the sick and say: *The Kingdom of God has come near you.*”

The *mission* of the early churches:

- **Mat 10.7** (*Go and preach the KOG*); **Acts 8:12** (believed the Gospel and Jesus and baptized).

# What?



Old Testament prophets for *all the nations*:

- **Isaiah 2; 19**
- **Ezekiel 36;**
- **Daniel 2; 7.**

## Isaiah 2

2 “In **the last days** **the mountain of the house of the LORD** will be established as **the chief of the mountains**; it will be raised above the hills, and **all nations will stream to it**.

3 And many peoples will come and say: “Come, let us go up to **the mountain of the LORD**, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us His ways so that we may walk in His paths. For the law will go forth from **Zion**, and **the word of the LORD** from **Jerusalem**.

## Isaiah 2

4 Then He will judge **between the nations**  
and arbitrate for many peoples.

They will beat their swords into plowshares  
and their spears into pruning hooks.

**Nation will no longer take up the sword  
against nation,** nor train anymore for war.”

## Ezekiel 36

33 “This is what the Lord GOD says:

**On the day** that I cleanse you from all of your guilt, I’ll make **your cities become inhabited again** and the desolate wastelands will be **rebuilt**.

34 The desolate fields will be cultivated, **replacing** the former wasteland that everyone who passed by in times past had noticed.

35 They will say, “This wasteland has become **like the garden of Eden**, and what used to be desolate ruins are now fortified and **inhabited**.”

## Ezekiel 36

36 “Then **the surviving nations** that live around you will learn that I, the LORD, have **rebuilt** these ruins and have cultivated these pastures that used to be desolate wastelands. I, the LORD, have spoken this, and I’m going to bring it about!”

37 This is what the Lord GOD has to say:

“I’m going to allow **the house of Israel** to ask anything they want from me, including this: I’m going to **increase their population** as a shepherd increases his flock.

38 The **desolate cities will be filled with flocks of human beings**, just like Jerusalem used to be filled with flocks of sheep during the times of the appointed festivals.

Then they will know that I am the LORD.’”



# Running Theme

The 3Rs: Daniel 2:44; cp. 7:14, 18, 22, 27

- **Restoration:** “rebuilt,” “cultivated,” “replacing.”
- **Regeneration:** “cleanse,” “garden of Eden.”
- **Rebirth:** Jerusalem/Zion “chief of the mountains.”

**Daniel 2:44 NIV**

“In the time of those kings, the **God of heaven will set up** a kingdom that will never be destroyed, nor will it be left to another people. It will crush all those kingdoms and bring them to an end, but **it will itself endure forever.**

**Daniel 7:14**

**To him was given ruling authority, honor, and sovereignty.** All peoples, nations, and language groups were serving him. His authority is eternal and will not pass away. His kingdom will not be destroyed.

**Daniel 7:18; Cp. 7:22, 27**

**The holy ones of the Most High will receive the kingdom and will take possession of the kingdom forever and ever.**

# Takeaways

- The promise to Abram: Gen 12.1-4;
- The *same* promise by Jesus: Mat 19.27-29;
- The same result: Triple honor, 1Pe 1.7;
- God is pro-nations not just pro-Israel:  
**Isa 19.16-24; Zech. 14.16; cp. Ezek 36:36.**

# Pro-Nations

Isaiah 19

16 **On that day** Egypt will be like women. She will tremble with fear because of the threatening hand of the Lord of Hosts when He raises it against her.

17 **The land of Judah** will terrify Egypt; whenever Judah is mentioned, Egypt will tremble because of what the Lord of Hosts has planned against it.

18 **On that day** 5 cities in the land of Egypt **will speak the language of Canaan and swear loyalty to the Lord of Hosts.** One of the cities will be called the City of the Sun.

## Isaiah 19

19 **On that day** there will be an altar to the Lord in the center of the land of Egypt and a pillar to the Lord near her border.

20 It will be a sign and witness to the Lord of Hosts **in the land of Egypt**. When they cry out to the Lord because of their oppressors, **He will send them a savior and leader**, and he will **rescue them**.

21 The Lord will make Himself known to Egypt, and Egypt will know the Lord **on that day**. They will offer sacrifices and offerings; they will make vows to the Lord and fulfill them.

## Isaiah 19

22 The Lord will strike Egypt, striking and healing. Then they will return to the Lord and He will hear their prayers and heal them.

23 **On that day** there will be a highway from Egypt to Assyria.

Assyria will go to Egypt, Egypt to Assyria, and Egypt will worship with Assyria.

24 **On that day** Israel will form **a triple alliance** with Egypt and Assyria—a blessing within the land.

25 The Lord of Hosts will bless them, saying, “**Egypt My people, Assyria My handiwork, and Israel My inheritance** are blessed.”

# Pro-Nations

Zechariah 14:16

Then **all the survivors from the nations** that came against **Jerusalem** will go up year after year to worship the King, the Lord of Hosts, and to celebrate the Festival of Booths.

Ezekiel 36:36

**The surviving nations** around you will know that **I, the Lord**, have **rebuilt** what was torn down and have **planted** what was made desolate.

**I, the Lord**, have spoken, and I will do it.

# What's your mission?

What's the point of doing Christian mission work if you don't even know or understand what Jesus *meant* by "the Great Commission"?







EVERY TONGUE, TRIBE & NATION